



Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Survey

Name of Organization 9 of 19 surveys returned_____

Name of Contact _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Governor Pawlenty and MHFA Commissioner Marx have established the goal of ending chronic homelessness. To facilitate the achievement of this goal, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency multifamily staff will be exploring a variety of housing models, strategies and programs. One existing model that appears to be successful is to integrate a few chronically homeless households in each of a variety of buildings located in close proximity to services with service providers working with property managers and building owners to assure that needed services are provided to the tenant. The service provider/case manager will also work with the property manager to resolve any problems that may arise as a result of the tenancy.

We are considering providing a priority in the awarding of our funding for developments willing to make a percentage of the units in a development available for occupancy by persons or households who are chronically homeless.

Key characteristics of homeless persons are an individual or adult family member with:

Mental illness,

Chemical dependency, or

Dual diagnosis of mental illness and chemical dependency;

and

who has either been homeless continuously for a year or more,

or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years,

excluding periods of incarceration or institutionalization.

We would appreciate it if you would answer the following questions:

1. Do you have past or present experience housing tenants who were previously chronically homeless? If so, what was your experience? Was/is it a successful experience? **5 of 9 respondents had experience, 4 did not. One of five with experience, reported the experience was successful. Four had mixed experience - some successes, some failures.**
2. Would you be willing to agree to make a percentage of units in a mixed income development available to chronically homeless households? If so, what percent of the units would you be willing to make available? **5 would be willing to house chronically homeless in a mixed income development, 4 might be willing to do so. 4 thought the percentage should be 5% or less; 3 thought 5-10%; one thought 15-20%; and one 50%.**
3. If you answered yes to the second question, how long would you be willing to make such a commitment? **2 for 5 years or less; one for 5-7 years; one for 10 years; one for 15 years; and three for 15 years or more.**
4. What, if any, incentives would be needed for you to house, or continue to house, chronically homeless households?
 - a. **One- no incentives**
 - b. **Three- fund total capital cost - no amortizing debt**
 - c. **Seven - Low rents and necessary services**
 - d. **Two - management fee increase.**
5. Do you have any recommendations as to how we can end chronic homelessness?
 - a. **Need funding for services**
 - b. **More capital cost funding**
6. Comments, questions, or concerns?
 - a. **Should units be furnished**
 - b. **Need rental assistance vouchers**
 - c. **Need service staff**
 - d. **Training and support for property managers needed.**